

Dear Dave,

11/3/93

When I returned the last of the proofs of the selections from the Whitewash series yesterday I mailed you copies of what I had written about it. That did not begin to reflect the impact of it on me. I think it is past, at least to the extent I reacted as I did emotionally. Last night I was able to accumulate more than seven hours abed and rapidly as I ordinarily get to sleep, is was pretty much sleep. I fell asleep looking at the evening TV news, so-called, and Lil had difficulty waking me to get to bed. I had to wait about 10 minutes after she got me up to move around and then had difficulty not falling. But I got the best night of rest in a long time. After, I think, three nights of little rest. I do not recall feeling as weary as most of yesterday, particularly in the afternoon. It was a considerable emotional drain. I suppose, as has happened recently, meaning since the 1989 heart operation, the ^ystollic blood pressure soared. But as I've known for this time, I can't take excitement as I used to. Mostly I am able to avoid it. But this blatant thievery was too much, particularly, as I do not indicate, it may have begun with Gallen's son David. The only reason I agreed to anything at all was because he wanted it ~~it~~ so much. I had outright refused the WHITEWASH reprinting he asked for. The reason I suspect him is what was missing and because he is the one who was going to make the selections. Also, if he did, he omitted all references in later books, almost all in Post Portem, to Whitewash. It remains a great disappointment. The reaction was not the same as how this all began, with what Dr. ^{5,6}Artwohl had read me Saturday night from Livingstone's High Trash 3 mistitled Killing the Truth because that does not apply in that book to him. That was more plain revulsion.

We had some things to get but at each stop, beginning with the downtown post office, I felt so weak I stayed in the car. We had to skip the last one so I could be home in time to take the antibiotic that with the leaky heart valve is required when there is any dental work, to prevent an infection there. A double dose two hours before the dentist and then the single dose six hours later. In the Giant a friend saw Lil. She asked how I was, Lil said pooped, this woman asked why and Lil said "Because he had to keep his pants on all day." Some truth to it. I can't adjust the supports with the pants on and they needed it. For some time now the left leg has been up to two inches larger than the right one. The woman is the friend who was going to retype Hoax but her son needed surgery and that at the time she was so preoccupied with the Jewish High Holidays. Although Jerry does not talk about it, Lil having learned from Barb, where he had the melanoma removed from his back he requires more, he has not yet learned entirely what, but it seems to involve going to Duke, the only place he can get a recommended injection. He is to learn from the local oncologist. The woman friend I mention about, formerly a nurse at the local hospital, would not think of her son having his surgery there. He had it at Hopkins and convalesced with her.

I am sure that my friend Sol will be willing to file either a temporary restrain-

order, that is what the TRO means in what I sent you, or for an injunction, ~~he~~ his handwriting is worse than mine, he has been retired for some years, and he always used to dictate all he filed. That is why I said that if he got a lawyer to do it I'd pay for it. But I do not know ~~if~~ he knows any New York lawyers other than of our generation. And they also are likely retired. We'll see, as we'll see the Carroll & Graf reaction.

I am aware, of course, of the influence this can have on the publication of both NEVER AGAIN! and Hoax. But I will not permit the theft of Whitewash, which de facto what they have done really is. I have a set of proofs because they asked for the return of only those sheets, two pages to a sheet, of the sheets with corrections. ~~We~~ have xeroxes of the corrections and that makes a full set. They even sent me uncorrected proofs to read. That meant, the citations all missing, quite a bit of work locating what is used. And all the typos! I was so tired from so little sleep and so emotionally upset I am sure I did not catch all of it and from time to time I dozed off and was less than fully awake when I was not sleeping sitting with the proofs in my hand on a clipboard. And the last day the Post's researcher was here. So I'd had to keep my pants on for two consecutive days all day. Lardner and Pincus have a jewel in that young woman, ~~whos~~ seems to be fresh from Duke. Discussing her yesterday ~~Lil~~ and I found she reminded us much of her-age friends when we were her age, a fine young woman and she picked up immediately what to do and then went about doing it, almost ~~enver~~ asking for any help. She took several hundred copies back for their early-days part of the 30th commemoration stories. Some should help them no end.

She was so impressed with the potential-and remember, the Post is one of the very few who paid for and got the general releases of 90,000 pages - that she said she would recommend that both Gorge and Pincus come up. So, I wrote George and recommended that if they do they bring her because she would make their work so much more effecient.

Bob Artwohl is an emergency-room doctor. He had promised me Saturday night, volunteered it, that he would send me xeroxes of all Livingstone's mentions of me. ~~He~~ phoned yesterday to say that had been impossible but that he would, I've not bought the book. I'm surprised that ~~G~~allen did not send it to me. Jerry was right in saying that it was on the trucks on the 19th. And then earlier last eek Andy of The Last Hurrah book store had phoned and told me some of what he had spotted in it when his came. So the book has been available for at least two weeks and ~~G~~allen did not send me a copy, unusual. I suppose that in the end I may have to buy one but I hate thinking of taking any time for that monstrous stuff.

It seems incredible that such disgusting defamations so baseless, so utterly sick, from a man they know is sick, could be published, but I suppose that, too, is commentary on the times and I suppose that in time I'll address it that way.

I think, and it seems I was ~~correct~~ in the similar opinion of Posner's book, they will be disappointed in the sales. The ~~unit~~ ^{unit} will go for that but I think that much as those

intending serious assassination reading have bought the crazy stuff, their major interest is serious and they will not ~~reg~~ regard this rubbish as serious.

Ann Eisele, the Post's researcher, told me she understand the Posner sale has been disappointing. She also said that the CBS special will use him and that book. I was told by AARC's Meyer in a letter I got yesterday that NBC is going to do a miniseries on it. And Matt Smith phoned me from England last evening just to talk and ask for a little help on Posner. His book is selling well in England but can't be placed in the US. He said that he was to have an hour and a half on Canadian radio with Posner, who would not accept. They tried many substitutes, including former WC lawyers, and only Liebelier would accept, but then not in confrontation. Liebelier is to have 30 minutes than Smith will have an hour, with call-ins. Smith's book centers on the Red Bird airport mythology. I did not expect it to be sold here. Smith will be at the Dallas confab but then has to fly back because he is a university lecturer and is scheduled for Reading Univ. a few days later.

I was well aware of the risk I was taking with C & G but I was never in doubt about what I would do. I wrote as soon as I saw the title page, write again with the return of the first of the proofs and then wrote as you saw C & G personally when I returned the last of them.

The gall of those people, not even letting me know so I could plan my work and my life that I'd be getting proofs then sending them by overnight United Parcel or some outfit like it with the proofs to be in their hands in a week? And then sending me uncorrected proofs so I'd have to do their copy reading when the copy was not indicated for checking and the proofreading even!

But I was impressed by the power of the selections as put together. You said you are surprised at how much I can remember. I'm impressed by how much I did not remember. As I read I indicated extra copies to be made for me so I can use them in both NEVER AGAIN! and in Hoax. I'll get on that when I return from this morning's walking.

I found only one error in this reading, something the lawyers like Jim and Bud who read the book did not call to my attention. I believed that the chief judges were appointed but they get there by seniority. I did correct that.

What surprised me is the it concludes with a brief Postscript from WWI and then with a lengthier use of the Epilogue of WWII. Both somewhat dated but effective still. With care not to use from either what I used in NEVER AGAIN!

You may be surprised at my lack of a contract. A contract with a publisher is worth only what you can make it worth and that means what you are able to afford and then do in court. My contracts with Dell on the reprints meant nothing at all and I was really gypped. Same with Frame-Up. So, I believe, assuming there is a conscience to which appeal can be made, as in this instance I do, I'm better off with that. I hope!

From what I've been told remains in the Livingstone book I believe that what was

removed is limited to what the outside libel lawyer said is libel. They knew I'd not be able to sue but I suspect that was removed. I was told there are ~~but~~ six pages on me but Artwohl says there are 30 on him! There may, of course be only six on me but there are probably other references. I asked Artwohl to copy the index page, too.

But I do not want to spend any time now on that insanity and that is why I've not even looked for a book to buy.

My plan, assuming that the letters and reaction to them do not change this, is to get back onto the Hoax preface and then either to make the insertions now from what I xeroxed from the proofs as reminders or to do the conclusions and then the inserts.

Without seeing the book I am confident that it is another and a significant facet of the failure of the institutions to function and of the greed that dominates those with no real interest in the meaning of the assassination in our national life.

It is also, I think significant that the publisher made no effort to learn whether the insults and accusations that may not be within the libel law are in any other way hurtful. He does not give a damn about hurting others, no matter how unjustly, if it means a few dollars for him.

There is something else I want to get on paper before leaving to walk. More on this later, I'm sure!

It is a reminder to Artwohl.

